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TO: Mr. Fred Prince **FROM: Tom Steketee**
Primary Examiner Art Unit 1724 Applicant
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Application No.: 10/708,924

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Applicant: Thomas G. Steketee
Application No.: 10/708,924
Filed: April 1, 2004
Title: Anti-Spray Aquarium Airlift Tube Elbow

Art Unit: 1724
Examiner: Fred Prince

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United States Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Commissioner for Patents

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir,

In response to the Office action of September 7, 2005, please amend the above identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 1.

Please cancel claim 7.

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

2. (Amended) An anti-spray, spray containment terminus for an aquarium airlift tube (in which upward water flow is created by the combination of a tube and the natural buoyancy of aeration bubbles) that performs the dual purpose of preventing the escape of aeration bubbles from the airlift tube and anti-spray terminus assembly, and a means for preventing the spray of fluids resulting from the implosion of the contained aeration bubbles from escaping from the said anti-spray terminus, without the need for any filtering materials or water pump in order to contain the spray. Wherein the aeration bubbles are removed from the water flow by the means of an inner and outer cylindrical tube, that achieve the purpose of channeling the upward water flow from an aquarium airlift tube to a downward direction, an upper air baffle that allows free passage of air while at the same time intercepting the passage of spray and an exit jet that has been placed beneath the water surface deeply enough, so that the natural buoyancy of the aeration bubbles will have counteracted the velocity of the downward flowing water sufficiently to allow the aeration bubbles to be contained.